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Voss, J.; Vegge, T.

Publication date:
2005

Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

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Citation (APA):

Voss, J., & Vegge, T. (2005). *Hydrogen dynamics in bulk sodium alanates*. Abstract from 3rd Annual Meeting in the Copenhagen Graduate School for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, Copenhagen, Denmark.

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Hydrogen dynamics in bulk sodium alanates

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Since the discovery of Ti-doped NaAlH_4 as a possible candidate for reversible solid state hydrogen storage [1], a lot of effort has been made to investigate and understand the decomposition processes and kinetics of NaAlH_4 and Na_3AlH_6 , an intermediate product in the desorption processes. Of particular interest is the effect of the Ti-doping on cyclic hydrogen discharging and recharging [2], being essential for mobile hydrogen storage applications.

In this contribution, we present results of density-functional calculations [3] for bulk NaAlH_4 and Na_3AlH_6 . We have determined activation energies for hydrogen diffusion and rotation of AlH_4^- and AlH_6^{3-} anions, respectively. We furthermore provide results for bulk substitutions of Ti at Al-sites.

[1] Bogdanović, Schwickardi, J. Alloys Compd. 253 (1997)

[2] Bogdanović *et al.*, J. Alloys Compd. 350 (2003)

[3] Dacapo pseudopotential code. URL <http://www.camp.dtu.dk/campos>
Hammer, Hansen, Nørskov, PRB 59, 7413 (1999)